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DIST 12 NOVEMBER 1976

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SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED -- NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONA

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VENEZUELA/CUBA COUNTRY

EDITIONS

OCUDANA- AIRLINES

DO I

EARLY NOVEMBER 1976

CUBAN OFFER TO SUPPLY VENEZUELA WITH EVIDENCE

CUBANA AIRLINER CRASH

AC Q

NO VEMBER 1976) FIELD NO HV C- 7541 VENEZUELA, CARACAS

AMONG VENEZUELAN SECURITY SOURCE OFFICIALS. HIS RELIABLE THOS HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED

DURING THE WEEK OF 1 NOVEMBER 1976 RETIRED GENERAL RAUL PI NOV 16 1976

HEAD OF THE DIRECTORATE FOR THE SERVICES OF GAINZA.

INTELLIGENCE AND PREVENTION (DISIP), SAID THAT HE HAD ACCEPTED OFFER BY THE CUBAN GOVERNMNET TO PROVIDE HIM WITH EVIDENCE AGAINST THE

FOUR INDIVIDUALS CURRENTLY UNDER DETENTION IN VENEZUELA IN THE CASE

OF THE 6 OCTOBER CRASH OF A CUBANA AIRLINER. THE CUBAN OFFER,

GIMENEZ SAID, CAME FROM NORBERTOTH E R N A N D E

CUBAN AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA.

THE EVIDENCE, GIMENEZ SAID, CONSISTS OF MEDICAL REPORTS WHICH

CLEARLY INDICATE THAT THE CUBANA CRASH

8 1976

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(classification)

WAS CAUSED BY A POWERFUL BOMB. THE BODIES OF THE CRASH VICTIMS WERE EXAMINED BY DOCTORS FROM BARBADOS AND ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIED COUNTRY, AND CUBAN DOCTORS WERE IN NO WAY INVOLVED WITH THE EXAMINATIONS OR THE PREPARATION OF THE MEDICAL REPORTS. GIMENEZ SAID THAT HERNANDEZ INFORMED HIM THAT THEY SHOW THAT AN EXPLOSION DEFINITELY OCCURRED IN THE AIRCRAFT, AS MANY OF THE BODIES OF THE CRASH VICTIMS WERE BLOWN APART AT THE WAIST.

- 3. THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT, GIMENEZ SAID, BADLY NEEDS ADMISSIBLE EVIDENCE AGAINST THE FOUR DETAINEES, AS LITTLE SUCH EVIDENCE CURRENTLY EXISTS. IN THE EVENT THAT THIS LACK OF EVIDENCE PERSISTS, &I MENEZ SAID THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THE CASE WOULD BE TURNED OVER TO THE MILITARY COURT WHERE MUCH LESS EVIDENCE IS NEEDED FOR CONVICTION.
- A. (FIELD COMMENT) A USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE INDEPENDENTLY REPORTED THAT TWO DISIP OFFICERS ARE TO BE DISPATCHED TO HAVANA ON THE MORNING OF 11 NOVEMBER TO PICK UP THE EVIDENCE OFFERED GIMENEZ BY THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT. A SOURCE OF UNDETERMINED RELIABILITY INDEPENDENTLY REPORTED THAT AS OF EARLY NOVEMBER THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT LACKED ADMISSIBLE EVIDENCE AGAINST THOSE SUSPECTED OF BEING INVOLVED IN CUBANA INCIDENT. BEFORE Y EZUELAN COURTS

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(classification)

CAN PROCEED WITH A CRIMINAL CASE AGAINST ANYONE SUSPECTED OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE CUBANA CRASH, THE AUTHORITIES MUST PROVE THAT A CRIME WAS INDEED. COMMITTED. THE CUBAN INFORMATION MIGHT PROVIDE THE NEEDED PROOF OF A CRIMINAL ATTACK AGAINST THE AIRCRAFT AND ITS PASSENGERS.)

5. FIELD DISSEM: EMBASSY , FBI AT CARACAS.

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